

17. (original): The method according to claim 1 further comprising:
exporting one or more notes into Word, Excel or other common user file formats.
18. (original): The method according to claim 1 further comprising:
storing said notes in a database.
19. (original): The method according to claim 1 wherein said parsing places single word subjects or sets of proper nouns into some categories.
- 20-31. (withdrawn)
32. (original): A method of selecting important content from a source using a logic device comprising:
using a rule set to determine the central content of a source and distinguish said central content from side bar text and links using a set of conditional rules;
using a rule set to determine what is the beginning and ending of said central content.
- 33-34. (withdrawn)

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Previous response to Election/Restriction.

In the Office Action dated February 13, 2003, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following groups under 35 U.S.C. §121:

- | | |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Group I: | Claims 1-19 and 32, drawn to accessing by user interface or operator interface, classified in class 345, subclass 700. |
| Group II: | Claim 20, drawn to inexact access, search and ranking, classified in class 707, subclass 5. |
| Group III: | Claims 21-29 and 33, drawn to distributed or remote access, retrieved by search engine, having URL and network, classified in class 707, subclass 10. |
| Group IV: | Claims 30, 31, and 34, drawn to a natural language, sentence structure and punctuation, classified in class 704, subclass 9. |

In response to this restriction requirement, Applicant provisionally elected Group I.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-4, 6-19 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102e in view of Christianson. In view of the remarks made herein, applicant believes these claims are in condition for allowance.

Claim 5 is indicated allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating the claim would be allowable if amended.

RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Response to Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102e over United States Patent N° 6.085,186 (Christianson)

The primary substance of the Examiner's rejection start on page 2 of the Office Action. In order to facilitate this Examination, Applicant will respond to selected rejections in the order presented by the Examiner.

(1) With respect to claim 1, the Examiner finds that Christianson "teaches a method of represent source content to allow for flexible access (see abstract). The abstract reads:

This invention provides assistance to a user in accessing network attached information sources. In one aspect, the invention is a method for intelligently routing a user query to information sources relevant to that query, extracting relevant data fields from received responses, and intelligently presenting the extracted data in order of estimated relevance. The system of this invention implements one or more steps of the method in a centralized or distributed manner on one or more network attached computers. Further, this invention provides a novel language and implementation that facilitates easily written and maintained descriptions of information source query and response formats.

The abstract in particular, and Christianson in general, do not discuss ways to "represent source content." Christianson is instead directed to search only, and showing search results.

(2) With respect to claim 1, the Examiner finds that Christianson "teaches ... extracting one or more notes from said source content, said one or more notes assigned to said one or more categories at col. 4, lines 31-36. The cited passage of Christianson read as follows:

Groups of sources 7 having similar sorts of information are grouped into conceptual classes called information domains. For example, one domain can be that of electronic stores for a particular product; another domain might include Internet

indexes containing information on the keyword content of various World Wide Web ("WWW") pages.

Note that nothing in these passages suggests extracting notes from source content. Notes are defined by use in the specification and claims as being summary and abstract notes identified or extracted from source content. This passage, and Christianson in general, discuss only classifying entire websites or indexes as particular types of information. Thus, there is no suggestion in Christianson for the claimed elements.

Furthermore, the claims link the notes from source content with the assigned categories. There is no such link between parsing results in Christianson and the conceptual classes. The "information domains" of Christianson are never described or suggested as something that results from parsing.

(3) The Examiner's holding that, with respect to claim 32, Christianson "teaches using a rule set to determine the central content of a source and distinguish said central content from side bar text and links using a set of conditional rules: and using a rule set to determine what is the beginning and ending of said central content (rule set is well known in the art as indicated by column 21, lines 12-62 and column 24, lines 29-45)" The cited passage of Christianson read as follows:

A first novel facility allows the specification of regular expressions to be broken into pieces in a manner similar to a context-free grammar, which specifies a language by a set of rules for nonterminals in the grammar. See, e.g., Aho et al., 1986, Compilers Principles, Techniques, and Tools, Addison Wesley Publishing Co., section 4.2. Writing a single regular expression to represent the format of a page from an information source, as is required in prior systems, often results in a very large and cumbersome expression, one which is difficult to write, understand, and maintain. To solve this problem of existing systems, the reg-exp component specifies a regular expression by a set of rules for components of the regular expression. These components are labeled by nonterminals. However, in contrast to context-free grammars, the set of rules in the reg-exp component are not allowed to be recursive or mutually-recursive. In other words, the rule for a particular nonterminal cannot directly or indirectly refer to other rules which refer to that particular nonterminal.

The following exemplifies the use of a set of rules and nonterminals. A top-level nonterminal defining an information response can be: <page> ::= <head> <item> * <tail> END. which specifies that the response is a page consisting of a head, followed by zero or more items, followed by a tail. The keyword "END" denotes the end of a rule. The second-level nonterminals on the right-hand side ("RHS") of this

rule ... and are defined by their own rules...To execute these rules, the reg-exp component compiler substitutes into the RHS of the RHSs of the rules ...The result is as if the wrapper contained the large, cumbersome composite top-level rule...If the second-level rules had contained further nonterminals on their RHSs, the compiler would continue making appropriate substitutions until there are no more nonterminals on the RHS of the composite rule for the top-level rule. Because of the lack of recursion or mutual recursion, this substitution terminates.

Parsing Regular Expression Rules

The first step in the preferred implementation of compiling a wrapper description is parsing the rules of the reg-exp language and the statements of the action language. The input to this step are the rules of the reg-exp language defining the regular expression to match. The output from this step is intermediate code in the form of a set of parse trees, one parse tree for the top-level rule and additional parse trees for each lower-level rule.

In a preferred embodiment, the process of this step is performed by parsing according to a recursive descent parser and emitting the parse tree according to a syntax-directed translator. Construction of a recursive descent compiler for the previously described syntax of the reg-exp language is well known to those of skill in the art. For example, it is clearly disclosed with examples in such textbooks as Aho et al., 1986, Compilers Principles. Techniques. and Tools, Addison Wesley Publishing Co. at section 2.4 and 4.4. Syntax directed construction of parse trees is covered with examples in section 5.2. This invention is not limited to this preferred embodiment.

In fact, the cited passage describes using a rule set and parser to parse regular expressions, not source content. The reference to "side" in the passage deals with the right hand side of a regular expression, or equation, not with side bar content in a web page. The parser is never described as including rules for parsing content to determine what is the side bar and what is the main content.

The Examiner's other rejections, including rejections of dependent claims, are moot in light of the showings above that the independent claims are allowable.

Request For Interview

If the claims are deemed not to be in condition for allowance after consideration of this Response, a telephone interview with the Examiner is hereby requested. Please telephone the undersigned at (510) 769-3508 as soon as possible.

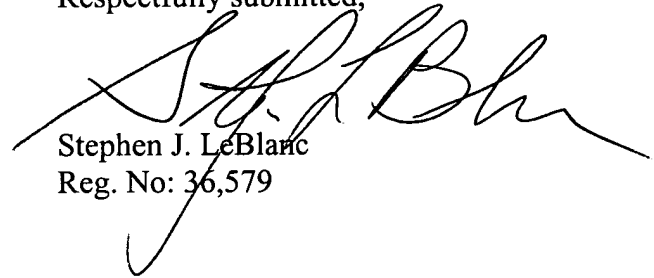
Appl. No. 09/559,137
Amdt. Dated August 13, 2003
Reply to Office action of February 13, 2003

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

- 4) A petition to extend the period of response for 2 months;
- 5) A transmittal sheet;
- 6) A receipt indication postcard.